

Application No.: 10/519,121  
Supplemental Resp. to OA of 8/8/06

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Docket No.: 416272003900

### REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 11 are amended. Claims 15-26 were previously canceled. New claims 27-33 are added. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-14 and 27-33 will be pending. Claims 7-9 had been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Applicants reiterate their request requested that claims 7-9 be examined in this application. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

### The Amendments

The claims have been amended to expedite prosecution and advance the case toward allowance.

Claims 1, 2 and 7 have been amended to replace "system" with "animal." Support for this amendment is found at page 7, lines 4-8.

Claim 1 has been further amended to recite that the administration is "for sufficient time to achieve or calculate a steady state isotopic content enrichment or specific activity of labeled cholesterol" Support for this amendment can be found, among other places, at page 13, lines 16-30 and page 14, lines 4-5.

Step d) of claim 2 has been amended to be consistent with step c) of claim 1.

Claim 10 has been amended to recite "mammal." Support for this amendment is found at page 7, lines 4-8.

Claim 11 has been amended to recite "mammal" instead of "system" and change the claim dependency to claim 10.

New claim 27 is added to refer to the "mammal" as a "human." Support for this amendment is found at page 7, lines 4-8.

New claims 27 to 33 are recited to further clarify claim 1. Support for this amendment is found at page 13, lines 9-15.

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### Election

The Examiner has made the restriction requirement final. Applicants reiterate that at least step d) ("calculating the rate of dilution... to determine the rate of the first arm of reverse cholesterol transport in the living system") which is present in independent claim 1, claims 2-14 (which depend from claim 1), and in each of the inventions of Groups I-VI, is a special technical feature that "define[s] a contribution, which each of the inventions, considered as a whole, makes over the prior art." PCT Rule 13.2. As discussed in the response to the restriction requirement, Scheibner *et al.* does not disclose this key technical feature. As explained in the prior response, Nanjee *et al.* also fails to disclose this feature. Thus, the traversal of the restriction is respectfully reiterated.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner examine claims 7-9 (which depend from claims 1) at this time.

### CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

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In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **416272003900**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: April 9, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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